

Message Text

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15

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TAGS: PFOR YO

SUBJECT : AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN'S INITIAL CALL ON

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN SECRETARY

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY MILOS MINIC TOOK ADVANTAGE OF AMBASSADOR'S INITIAL CALL TO INDICATE HIS BELIEF YUGOSLAV-US RELATIONS WERE FIRMLY BASED AND DEVELOPING IN SOUND WAY. HE ALSO UNDERLINED FUNDAMENTAL YUGOSLAV COHESION AND UNITY, AND STRESSED THAT YUGOSLAV POLICIES ARE BASED ON PRINCIPLES RATHER THAN ON BALANCING BETWEEN BLOCS OR ON BLOC (I.E., NONALIGNED) ADHERENCE.

2. REFERRING TO SOUND DEVELOPMENT OF US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF 1971 NIXON-TITO DECLARATION, MINIC

SAID THIS FIRM BASE ENABLES US TO SURMOUNT POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT. IN THIS CONTEXT HE SAID IT IS BECAUSE OF WARM YUGOSLAV FEELING FOR US THAT THEY ARE CONCERNED BY THOS OF OUR ACTIONS WHICH THEY REGARD AS "DIRECTED AGAINST THEM".

3. REFERRING TO IMPORTANCE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S

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VISIT HERE LAST FALL MINIC WONDERED AT ENORMOUS DEMANDS

PLACED ON THE SECRETARY AND ASKED HOW HE WAS BEARING UP. AMBASSADOR REPLIED SECRETARY IS MAN OF GREAT VIGOR AND IS BEARING UP WELL.

4. MINIC REFERRED TO UNDERLYING COHESION AND UNITY OF YUGOSLAVIA WHICH HE SAID AMBASSADOR WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE FIRST HAND, BUT COMPLAINED OF SIMPLISTIC VIEW CERTAIN NEWSPAPERS HAVE OF YUGOSLAVIA. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT WHILE SOME PAPERS HAVE SIMPLISTIC VIEW OF YUGOSLAVIA YUGOSLAVS MUST APPRECIATE THAT UNDER US SYSTEM THERE IS NO WAY TO DIRECT WHAT THEY WRITE. TO MINIC'S OBSERVATION THAT USG OFFICIALS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE IN THEIR OBSERVATIONS AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA AMBASSADOR REPLIED IT IS HIS OPINION THAT ALL SOPHISTICATED OBSERVERS IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT APPRECIATE YUGOSLAVIA'S UNDERLYING UNITY AND COHESION.

5. AFTER MINIC DESCRIBED IMPORTANCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT AS CORNERSTONE OF YUGOSLAV FOREIGN POLICY, AMBASSADOR SAID WHILE US FIRMLY SUPPORTS YUGOSLAV INDEPENDENCE THERE IS SOME CONFUSION IN US RE WHAT "NONALIGNED" MEANS SINCE SO FAR AS NATIONS VOTE TOGETHER AS A BLOC IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW THEY CAN REGARD THIS POSITION AS NONALIGNED. MINIC RESPONDED THAT KISSINGER HAD SAID THE SAME THING WHEN HE WAS HERE, AND HE SEMI-FACETIOUSLY NOTED HE HAD THOUGHT HE WAS SUCCESSFUL IN EXPLAINING YUGOSLAV POSITION TO SECRETARY; BUT IN LIGHT OF AMBASSADOR'S WORDS IT APPEARS HE HADN'T SUCCEEDED. AMBASSADOR WENT ON TO SAY THAT YUGOSLAV INDEPENDENCE IN ITS POLICIES IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WOULD BE APPARENT TO US IF THEY VOTED IN A RELATIVELY EVEN FASHION, SOMETIMES WITH THE US AND SOMETIMES AGAINST. MINIC RESPONDED THAT YUGOSLAV POLICY IS BASED NOT ON ATTEMPTED BALANCE BUT ON SET OF PRINCIPLES. AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT WHAT WAS TO ONE NATION A SET OF PRICIPLES ANOTHER REGARDED AS ALLIANCES.

6. IN PARTING MINIC OFFERED AMBASSADOR FREE ACCESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO FOREIGN SECRETARIAT AND EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF CONSULTATION ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES, WITH WHICH AMBASSADOR FULLY AGREED.
SILBERMAN

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